

Fennimore United  
Methodist Church  
Stitzer United Methodist Church  
1450 Second Street  
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Pastor Yang, Associate Pastor

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## “I Will Ease Your Mind”

I recently was driving down the road and a song came on the radio that I had not heard in a long, long time. The song: Bridge Over Troubled Water by Simon and Garfunkel. I have always loved the song and it has always been comforting but never knew the story behind it. The lyrics are:

When you're weary, feeling small, When tears are in your eyes  
I will dry them all, I'm on your side  
Oh when times get rough, And friends just can't be found

Like a bridge over troubled water, I will lay me down  
Like a bridge over troubled water, I will lay me down

When you're down and out, When you're on the street  
When evening falls so hard, I will comfort you  
I'll take your part, Oh when darkness comes  
And pain is all around

Like a bridge over troubled water, I will lay me down  
Like a bridge over troubled water, I will lay me down

Sail on, silver girl, Sail on by, Your time has come to shine  
All your dreams are on their way, See how they shine  
Oh if you need a friend, I'm sailing right behind

Like a bridge over troubled water, I will ease your mind  
Like a bridge over troubled water, I will ease your mind

Paul Simon wrote this about providing comfort to a person in need. It started as a gospel hymn but became more dramatic as he put it together. Speaking in the documentary *The Making of Bridge Over Troubled Water*, Simon said, “I have no idea where it came from. It came all of a sudden. It was one of the most shocking moments in my songwriting career. I remember thinking, ‘This is considerably better than I usually write.’”

Simon wrote this song on guitar, considered the song “a little hymn” and then it took about two days to come up with the piano part, which was played by Larry Knechtel, who later joined the soft rock group Bread. Knechtel had a background in gospel music and was able to come up with the gospel piano sound they were looking for.

On another note, the song originally was only two verses, but a third verse was added. The line “Sail on, silver girl” is often reputed to refer to a needle (meaning the song is about heroin) but it actually refers to Simon’s girlfriend (and later wife) Peggy Harper who found a few gray hairs and was upset. The lyric was meant as a joke – Simon calling her “Silver Girl” because of her hair. Thus it was Paul Simon’s “little hymn.”

Jesus is our bridge over troubled water and he laid his life down for us. He will wipe away every tear from you eye (Revelation 21:4) and will never forsake us or leave us (Hebrews 13:5) and proclaims that he is the light of the world and through him there is no darkness (John 8:12).

Please let Jesus be your bridge over troubled water and when you do, your mind and heart will be eased!



## Fennimore UMW News:

### Shades of Gold

So many shades of gold.... Autumn  
Another miracle we take for granted  
Another expression of the artist's vision  
The blending of the autumn hues  
with the setting sun  
Warm  
Comforting  
Perfect  
Thank you for autumn, Lord.

- Author Unknown

### Happy Fall Everyone!

It was a gorgeous fall evening for the UMW Quarterly Meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Apple Crisp, Cheese and Crackers and Snacks were served. Plans were made for the Annual Holiday Potluck on December 4<sup>th</sup>. A brief business meeting was held discussing yearly donations, and ended in a devotion and discussion.

### HELP IS NEEDED!

**The Creation Team** — is looking for more helpers to join in. They meet the third Monday(1 PM) and Tuesday(9 AM) of the month here at the church, where they make and tie covers. These are not quilts, no intricate patterns, just blocks. **No quilting skill are needed**, we tie them with yarn. Easy!

Some covers are sold here and our money is given to different missions/charities. Also, we send some to Social Services during the holidays and we always have a stash of a few for those in dire need, such as, in the case of a fire or shelter need.

**PLEASE** consider helping a few hours a month to keep this mission going. Please contact Joann Schrader if you would like to join in.

**Depot Exchange** — Volunteers work on the second Monday of the month from either 9:30 – 11:30 or 2:00 – 4:00 . Please come and join in one of the UMW's and FUMC's favorite mission. Audrey is the contact person if you need info.

**Keep the Date** — Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM for our Annual Potluck dinner and meeting. We assemble the Cheer Plates for members over a certain age and our Church Staff.

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

God created the heavens and the earth, the sun, the moon and the stars. He made the sky, the land, and the animals. And God made YOU!

Our kids have started the year way back to the beginning with the story of Creation. They have also been busy learning about Adam and Eve and Noah and the Ark! Our memory verse this month came from Genesis 1:31 – God saw all that he had made, it was supremely good.

Something new we will be doing this year is our "Spotlight Bulletin Board", which will be located near the restrooms by the lobby. Each month we will feature one of our classrooms so you can get to know all the students! This month we will feature our Tot's Turf group!

Planning for Halloween Hoopla is also underway! This year it will be held on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 1:30 PM. We will have trunk or treating, cookie decorating, food, games and more! Fun for ALL ages! Come on out and join us!

Last year, our students took a day and packed boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We will be doing this again on Sunday, November 10 during Christian Education.

Finally, we will be hosting a movie night on Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> in the large group CE area. Watch for more details on this closer to the date!

# Who's Serving in Fennimore in October?

## Ushers

Date:	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
10/6/2019	Bob and Maggie Miller	Chris and Kim Cathman
10/13/2019	Dave and Ann Stenner	Sue Hentschel
10/20/2019	Chris and Pam Kreul	Jackie and Rod Wehrle
10/27/2019	Droessler Family	Linda S. Karen R.

## Greeter (Sanctuary)

Date:	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
10/6/2019	Kevin and Marissa Klais	Chris and Kim Cathman
10/13/2019	Torgerson Family	Gregg and Tricia Davis
10/20/2019	Chris and Pam Kreul	Jackie and Rod Wehrle
10/27/2019	Chuck and Barb Weist	Linda S. Karen R.

## Liturgist

Date:	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
10/6/2019	Maggie Kartman	Kim Cathman
10/13/2019	Mark Burkum	Gregg Davis
10/20/2019	Trent Klais	Jackie Wehrle
10/27/2019	Linda O'Kane	Linda S.

### October Food Pantry Needs:

Cream of Mushroom Soup  
Tomato Soup  
Carrots  
Canned Fruit  
Toilet Paper  
Shampoo

## Words to Strive for with Discipleship

### *The 10 Most Important Words*

I won't wait for others to take the first step

### *The 9 Most Important Words*

If it is to be, it's up to me.

### *The 8 Most Important Words*

If not me, who? If not now, when?

### *The 7 Most Important Words*

Let me take a shot at it

### *The 6 Most Important Words*

I will not pass the buck

### *The 5 Most Important Words*

You can count on me.

### *The 4 Most Important Words*

It is MY Job.

### *The 3 Most Important Words*

Just do it!

### *The 2 Most Important Words*

I will.

### *The Most Important Word*

Me.

## *Remember our Friends at:*

### **Orchard Manor**

Doris Schneider

### **Lancaster Care Center**

Jeannette Schneiderwind

### **Divine Rehab and Nursing**

Nip Leffler, Dave Lindow, Gerry McReynolds,  
Dennis Freymiller

### **Sunset Fields**

Donna Blackburn and Paul Rector



# "THE ASSOCIATE'S CORNER"

PASTOR YANG

## A Lesson from My 4 Year Old Niece

Years ago my eldest sister came up to me and told me a story that really got me thinking. She said the older of my two nieces (they're sisters) said her dad's grandfather had just passed away and was now in heaven with God. The amazing part (at least to me) is that my niece claimed that the deer was also in heaven along with her dad's grandfather. Maybe it's the seminary student in me but that had me in complete awe.

I asked my niece about the story and she repeated everything my sister had said word for word. I'll never forget the conviction on her face.

She believed that she had an answer to a question that even the most trained seminary student or professional theologian had struggled with even now.

Okay... I know she's was only 4 years old at that time but how she came up with these ideas could have come from a wide variety places. I'm not claiming she's the next Dali Lama or St.

Augustine. I also know many of you can claim stories much similar to my own but her conviction is what amazed me.

Matthew 18: 3-5 quotes Jesus when states that unless a person changes and becomes like a child that person may never enter the kingdom of heaven. Mark 10:15 basically tells the reader the same story. When Christ speaks of "children" he is not speaking of a faith lead by an intuitive (blind) belief but instead speaks about humbling oneself to the levels of those caught on the fringes of society such as the poor, sick, the "different", or dying. Only when a person can walk or somehow understand the conditions of these individual can they enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus uses the example of children because children were seen as the lowest class of people within the Roman Empire mostly if they were not a Roman citizen.

Maybe because my niece is young and was "only a 4 year old" but maybe that is why she spoke confidently without shame, regret, or worry or being wrong. Too often times Christians are too concerned about their own lives or their social status, whether in the church or outside of it, to fully share the message of the Lord. This might even lead to others to doubt their own faith in God. Until we can see the desperation of the needs around us, until we can walk in the shoes of others instead of thinking about ourselves, and until we can be like a child we cannot fully understand the power of God's message. Thank you to my little niece for this note. Now I'll ask her what she thinks about Trinity and what does it mean to be three in one ... uhhhhh ... maybe not.

*Thank you*

Thank you for all the prayers and support through Jim's long hospitalization this summer. We both really appreciate the pastoral visits, get-well cards, rides to Madison, and lawn mowing assistance. Jim is improving and has been transferred to the UW Rehab Hospital. Please continue to pray for him to regain his strength so he can recover quickly from the next surgery needed within the next few months.  
Jim and Laura Kloosterboer

